

Afghanistan *Freedom*

December 26, 2005

Combined Forces Command - Afghanistan

Watch



***MP Company patrols
with Afghan National
Police in Zabul Province***

Page 10



Hajj pilgrims board a commercial aircraft at Kandahar Airfield bound for Medina, Saudi Arabia. Thousands of Afghan pilgrims are making the journey from Afghanistan.

Photo by Army Staff Sgt. Jacob Caldwell,
Task Force Bayonet Public Affairs

Cover: Army Pfc. Pauline Lockhart, 92nd Military Police Company gunner, patrols the village of Shah Joy.

Photo by Army Spc. Tiffany Evans, 20th Public Affairs Detachment

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Afghanistan Freedom Watch

Combined Forces Command - Afghanistan

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CFC-A Commander Lt. Gen. Karl W. Eikenberry
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Commanding General sends: Holiday Greetings



I am taking this opportunity to thank each of you, as well as your families, for your sacrifice during this holiday season.

Serving in a distant land is never easy, but yet each of you continues to do your part to ensure mission accomplishment.

Your efforts have directly contributed to the building of a solid foundation for a new Afghanistan; a foundation built on the principles of freedom and democracy. The recent elections, successfully conducted despite numerous threats from the enemy, are a watershed event. The upcoming seating of the parliament, a capstone event for this budding nation, is a celebration of this historic victory. Through your work, you have enhanced this nation's security, permitting political and economic development. In turn, this has reduced the areas in which the enemy can take refuge, and directly improves security for your loved

ones, wherever they may live. Take pride in your contributions, as I take pride in you.

This holiday season is also a time to remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice over the past year. Remember them, and the loved ones they have left behind, in your prayers. They will not be forgotten, as history will judge them as part of the noble effort to bring stability to a region of the world that has known only tyranny and war for decades; that produces terrorists with a single mindset to destroy our treasured liberties, ruthlessly killing innocents in the process. As we celebrate this season, we cherish the memories of our fallen comrades, part of our military family in theater.

You, too, should realize your own part in history. As we build a stronger Afghanistan and contribute to a more stable region, we are changing the future; we are creating a safer world for our loved ones. This is what the American people expect of us, and what we, as their military, will deliver. Your dedication makes this possible.

I wish each of you a wonderful holiday season and the happiness you so richly deserve in the coming year. Please convey this same feeling, and my warmest regards, to your families at home. Let's continue looking after one another as we forge ahead in our common mission.

-- Lt. Gen. Karl Eikenberry

Commanding General

Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan

Dari/Pashtu phrase of the week



Afghan cultural tidbit

I am sorry

Dari
Bebakhshaid
(Bay-bahk-shade)

Pashtu
Wu bakhai
(Wuh bahk-hi)

The Islamic calendar consists of 12 lunar months. Each month may be 29 or 30 days depending on the sighting of the new moon. A lunar year has, on average, 355 days. The reason in the variances is that lunar calendar is 10 days less than the solar year. Hence an Islamic year is moved ahead 10 days each year in the solar calendar year. Islamic holidays such as Ramadan, Eid ul-Fitr, Eid ul-Adha, Ashura and Mawlut Nabi vary from year to year. The current year is 1426.

VP presents medals, speaks with troops

**Combined Forces
Command – Afghanistan
Public Affairs**

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan - Vice president Dick Cheney awarded medals for valor in combat to two Army aviators and two infantrymen during a visit with the troops here Dec. 19.

Cheney awarded the Bronze Star medal with valor device to Army Staff Sgt. Jonathan Brooks and Army Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Holland, both infantrymen assigned to 1st Battalion, 508th Infantry (Airborne), for their actions in combat May 30.

Army Chief Warrant Officer Guy Betts, a pilot from Company B, 3rd Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment, received the Air Medal with valor device for engaging the enemy during a medical evacuation mission June 1.

Army Chief Warrant Officer Sean Laycox, a CH-47 Chinook pilot from Company D, 113th Aviation Regiment received the Distinguished Flying Cross for assisting a downed helicopter while under fire during an April 18 mission.

During the visit, Cheney and his wife, Lynne, spent time with Combined Joint Task Force-76 troops. Hundreds of service members gathered to meet the vice president, who offered them holiday greetings and thanked them for their service.

"We're proud of you, we're grateful for your service, and we're behind you 100 percent," Cheney told the troops.

Earlier, Cheney was in Kabul to meet with Afghan President Hamid Karzai and represent the United States at the initial session of the first democratically elected parliament of Afghanistan



Vice president Dick Cheney awards Army Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Holland a Bronze Star medal with valor device for actions in combat May 30.

in 30 years. His visit to the CJTF-76 troops at Bagram is part of a weeklong trip to meet with leaders of several countries. On Sunday, Cheney met with U.S. troops in Iraq. While at Bagram, Cheney met with senior

Coalition military leaders to discuss progress in the war on terrorism and the current fight against the Taliban in Afghanistan. During his visit, the vice president also oversaw the re-enlistment of several troops.

Photo by Army Staff Sgt. Ken Denny, Task 117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment



PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

Afghan Dr. Mohammad Amin prepares to administer intravenous fluids to U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Randy Felder, noncommissioned officer in charge of Medical Embedded Training Team, 2nd Brigade, 205th Corps. The ETT and Afghan National Army celebrated the opening of a new ANA troop medical clinic in Qalat. Afghan doctors and medics from the ANA staff the clinic and train with 126th Forward Surgical Team at Forward Operating Base Lagman.

Photo by Army Spc. Tiffany Evans, 20th Public Affairs Detachment

If you have high-quality photos of service members supporting the Coalition mission or enjoying well-deserved off-duty time, please e-mail them to freedomwatch@baf.afgn.army.mil. Please include full identification and caption information, including who is in the photo and what action is taking place.

Afghan National Police officers visit Fort Drum, U.S. police departments

By Army Sgt. Mason Lowery
Office of Security Cooperation -
Afghanistan Public Affairs

KABUL, Afghanistan - Senior Afghan National Police officers recently returned from a trip to the United States where they met with key leaders from the U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division and officers from several U.S. law enforcement agencies.

ANP Brig. Gen. Sahki Baiani, special adviser to the chief of the Afghan National Police, and ANP Col. Wasim Azimi, Afghan Ministry of Interior chief of operations, toured Fort Drum, N.Y., and local law enforcement agencies to view modern U.S. police stations and law enforcement methods.

The primary purpose of the Fort Drum visit was to participate in the Afghanistan orientation briefings for Operation Unified Endeavor, where the Afghan delegation briefed 10th Mountain Division leaders on the ANP and Afghanistan's police reform.

The forum allowed U.S. Soldiers, who will deploy to Afghanistan early next year, to ask questions of both the Afghan officials and Army Maj. Michael Adelberg, their escort from the Office of Security Cooperation -

Afghanistan. It also gave Baiani the opportunity to address the division's troops on behalf of the Afghan people.

Operation Unified Endeavor was an exercise that provided the 10th Mountain Division the opportunity to test its plans and procedures for deploying its Soldiers to Afghanistan, where they will serve as the command and control element for the Coalition's operations against the Taliban and al-Qaida forces.

Members from other armed services and federal agencies also participated in the joint training event to prepare for the division's deployment.

"I would like to thank you for all that you have done for the people of Afghanistan," Baiani said. "Four years ago you helped us get rid of the Taliban, and now you are returning to help us rebuild our country."

"The United States became my home when I was forced to leave Afghanistan, and now I am happy that you are coming back to my home to help us," Baiani said.

Baiani left Afghanistan when the socialists sentenced him to death in the turmoil before the Soviet invasion. He eventually settled in Plano, Texas, where he lived until returning to Afghanistan in 2002.

Azimi spent eight years as a prisoner in the Pol-e-Charki Prison during the Soviet-Afghan War. Following his release, he lived in Pakistan and eventually moved to Australia in 1999.

He also returned to Afghanistan in 2002.

Besides meeting with the 10th MD leaders, the Afghans visited the Fort Drum Military Police Station, the Watertown, N.Y., Police Department and a New York State Police barracks.

They received briefings from police officials on civilian law enforcement functions and techniques.

Additionally, they observed many of the tools and equipment that modern police forces have at their disposal.

Among the many police assets the Afghans saw were emergency dispatch systems and computerized criminal database systems, which allow police officers to instantly access information on individuals.

After observing the various police departments and their techniques, Baiani said he was impressed with American law enforcement.

"This is what we need in Afghanistan," he said. "We have the policemen, now we need the systems that help police do their jobs."

Enduring Voices

Who is your role model and why?



Army Sgt. Candice Murray,
 26th Quarter Master
 Company
*"God because I was raised
 that way and look up to
 him."*



Air Force Staff Sgt. Henry
 Tye, 755th Expeditionary
 Security Force Squadron
*"My father because he was
 always there for me."*



Marine Sgt. John Mitchell,
 2-3 Embedded Training
 Team
*"My father because he is
 serving in Baghdad with the
 U.S. Army Rangers."*



Army Sgt. Chris
 Obilisundar, 53rd Support
 Battalion
*"Salvador Dali because
 he's one of the best post
 modern day Renaissance
 artists."*



Under the supervision of 44th Signal Detachment Soldiers, Afghan workers join PVC conduits to a cement communications vault. The cement vault forms a hub for communication lines. Improved reliability and easier repairs will result from this project at Forward Operating Base Salerno.



Army Sgt. Jonathan Lemenager, a network switch specialist, looks out from a communications vault before he prepares to pull cable through the PVC pipes leading to it. Lemenager, of the 44th Signal Detachment out of Manheim, Germany, is constructing a communications network to improve the reliability of communications at Forward Operating Base Salerno.

Photos by Army Sgt. 1st Class Curtis Matsushige, Task Force Devil Public Affairs

Signal unit improves communications

**By Army Sgt. 1st Class
Curtis Matsushige**
Task Force Devil Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE SALERNO, Afghanistan - The 44th Signal Detachment is digging deep into the earth to improve the lines of communication here by protecting cable conduits.

The construction of a new cable network is nearing completion. Part of that network is communication vaults which are similar to a computer hub only a lot bigger. The vault is large enough for a Soldier to climb down into.

"We're building this network from scratch," said Army Sgt. 1st Class Sgt. Robert Lewis, noncommissioned officer in charge of the project.

The first step is getting the wires

underground and protected by making the vault forms, then pouring concrete. After the concrete cures and is entrenched, PVC pipes are laid-out and joined to form conduits for the communication lines.

The final step is to pull the cables through the pipes.

"The vaults will make it easier to put in new cables and repair connections if needed," Lewis said. "And the lines are also protected."

As with most of the base construction projects, Afghans are helping with the project.

The work provides wages to the Afghan workers and teaches them new skills that will benefit them for the rest of their lives.

"We've been using the same laborers," said Lewis, who is deployed from Manheim, Germany. "They're hard

workers. When we were working late, they volunteered to stay and work, but we had to send them home."

But all the hard work and long hours will pay off with improved communications abilities.

"The system of underground conduits will house conventional and digital fiber optics lines," said Army 1st Lt. Drew Abell, hub platoon leader and officer in charge of the project. "This will definitely improve connectivity for on-base units."

"We're laying down communications that will be more reliable than the field network we have," said Abell. "It's capable of carrying Internet, phones and additional communication lines."

"We hope to have it completely finished before we leave, so we can make a smooth turnover to the next unit," he said.

FOB gets provost marshal office

**By Army Sgt. 1st Class
Curtis Matsushige**

Task Force Devil Public Affairs

**FORWARD OPERATING BASE
SALERNO, Afghanistan** - Law and order has arrived here from the 212th Military Police Company based in Kitzingen, Germany in the form of a sheriff and his deputy.

Army Staff Sgt. Robert Leverett, non-commissioned officer in charge of the provost marshal office, also known as the "Sheriff," his chief, Army Sgt. Wallace Moore and deputy, Army Pfc. Destiny Plummer have arrived here to stay.

"We're setting up an MP station from scratch," said Leverett, a native of Selma, Ala., "And we're in a transitional period right now."

The MPs are working out of a general purpose medium tent until their permanent office, made of brick and mortar, is built.

"We will soon be moving into a per-

manent structure with offices and cubicles for interviews or interrogation, and a detention cell," Leverett said.

Just as these law officers are going through changes, FOB Salerno is changing as well.

"Previously, crimes were dealt with by the commander and through nonjudicial punishment," Leverett explained. "There will now be a legal system in place to handle cases that might require judicial punishment in addition to what commanders can do.

"Crimes here range from shoplifting to assault to speeding," he said. "Some folks on Salerno may have noticed the new speed-limit, stop and yield signs that have sprouted up."

But dealing with military members who commit crimes won't be their only focus.

"We will also deal with Afghan nationals if an incident happens on base," said Moore, a native of Lawton, Okla. "We're concerned with the health and welfare of [everyone] on base."

Dino, a military working dog, and Army Sgt. Jimmy Wise, from the 16th Military Police Company out of North Carolina, will assist the provost marshal Soldiers in conducting health and welfare inspections.

"Yesterday, we went through the Dining Facility and common living areas doing random inspections," said Wise, in reference to places he and Dino were called in to assist.

Provost marshal MPs also help train the local police. Plummer trained Afghan National Police in the area to deal with civil crime and hostage situations.

He also trained them in suspect apprehension and detention, as well as ethics and proper conduct of a policemen.

These lawmen are versatile and hold a variety of special skill identifiers.


The skills these MPs bring here will come in handy in a variety of situations.

But that's for these lawmen to know and the outlaws to find out.



Army military policemen, Pfc. Destiny Plummer, Sgt. Wallace Moore, Sgt. 1st Class Robert Leverett of the provost marshal office, followed by Sgt. Jimmy Wise and canine Dino walk out of Military Intelligence Village after conducting a health-and-welfare inspection.

Long-range surveillance

A photograph showing several soldiers in camouflage uniforms and tactical gear moving down a rocky, leaf-strewn path in a valley. The path is flanked by trees with autumn foliage in shades of yellow and orange. A small stream or river is visible on the left side of the path. The soldiers are seen from behind, moving away from the camera into the distance.

Soldiers from 74th Long Range Surveillance Detachment move down a valley in search of insurgents in support of an aircraft that received fire.

e teams pursue terrorists

By Army Spc. Jon Arguello

Task Force Bayonet Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan - During five days in December, a specialized unit from the 173rd Infantry Brigade (Airborne) defined flexibility. The members of the 74th Long Range Surveillance Detachment Soldiers proved themselves a valuable asset as they eliminated a group of terrorists, including one key leader Dec. 5.

The special skills and flexibility of a long range surveillance detachment make the unit especially adapted to meet the needs of an infantry brigade in this environment, said Army Maj. Michael Loos, officer in charge of the 173rd Airborne Brigade operations and planning.

"The LRS is very adept at many missions we employ here in Afghanistan," Loos said. "[It's] tremendous day and night capabilities and training [are] perfect for this terrain."

As the long-range surveillance detachments began melding into the Army's new vision for the future, the 74th underwent its own transformation here in Afghanistan. Much of the adjustment came after the unit's change of command when Army Capt. Dirk Ringgenberg assumed command after his own string of extremely successful victories as the commander of C Company 2nd Battalion 503rd Infantry (Airborne).

"I wasn't an expert on the conventional tactics of an LRS detachment," Ringgenberg said.

"So I just took the awesome skills of its leaders and Soldiers and mixed them with what I knew about a standard infantry company."

Normally, an LRS is outfitted with six teams, a communications section and a headquarters section. The six teams, led by staff sergeants, work independently under the guidance of the commander to fulfill their reconnaissance missions. Now, the unit is separated into a black team, led by Ringgenberg and a gold team, led by Army Capt. Casey Thoreen, 74th LSRD executive officer. Both teams have Afghan National Army soldiers in them.

"Usually, an LRS detachment is comprised of six teams who all have their independent characteristics and talents," said Army 1st Sgt. Randy Collins, 74th LSRD first sergeant. "But, after our change of command, the commander got together with the brigade staff and talked about how best to keep us employed. Now all our teams, who had six different ways to skin a cat, had to learn to do things in a more unified way."

But this diverse group of mostly ranger qualified noncommissioned officers who have held their own shuras and made their own village assessments. They have used their vast range of experiences to make the transformation successful, while remaining lethal.

Flexibility has always been a part of the detachment's character, said Army Staff Sgt. Jose Banuelos, the detachment's senior staff sergeant.

"You can't always have a perfect plan," said, Banuelos, a native of Oceanside, Calif. "The enemy can change things, and you have to change with them to close in on the enemy or accomplish the mission. It's almost standard operating procedure that things won't go exactly as planned. You just have to be ready to support each other."

That was the case during the early December mission as the 74th split with one

See Detachment, Page 14

Military Police patrol Zabul with Afghan National Police

By Army Spc. Tiffany Evans
20th Public Affairs Detachment

SHAH JOY, Afghanistan - Soldiers from the 92nd Military Police Company held a short class for the Afghan National Police with hands-on training for presence patrols in Shah Joy District which is in Zabul Province on Nov. 13.

"My Soldiers have been training the Shah Joy ANP on how to properly be police officers," said Army 1st Lt. Daniel Caffarel, platoon leader. "The main goal for (this) class was to teach the police officers on how to properly interact with citizens."

After a short classroom discussion, the ANP formed up and began a presence patrol, which the MPs followed to observe their actions, Caffarel said.

"At first we were looking to see how well they stayed in formation and pulled security while patrolling," Army Staff Sgt. Richard Riley said. "Next, we watched to see if they stopped to talk to anyone to gain information."

One of the best sources of intelligence is the local citizens, Riley said. They can tell the police about people who might be a terrorist and who has been causing trouble.

"A few of the ANP would stop and talk, but we also stopped to gather intelligence," said Army Spc. Matthew Gregory Adams, a medic. "They held their formation well, slowed down traffic, pulled good security and basically proved that they are gaining experience."

Showing a strong police presence helps to deter terrorists and gives the locals a sense of safety, Adams said.

"By teaching the local police new tactics and showing them how to interact with citizens, we are helping the ANP to gain the trust of the people," said Adams. "The more the people trust the ANP and Coalition forces, the less safe havens there will be for terrorists."



An Afghan National Police officer looks for anyone or anything suspicious.



Soldiers from the 92nd Military Police Company patrol with Afghan National Police. From front to back, they are Army Pfc. Pauline Lockhart, Army 1st Lt. Daniel Caffarel, Army Spc. Matthew Gregory Adams and Staff Sgt. Rick Dwinnell.



(Above) Army Spc. Matthew Gregory Adams, foreground, conducts a security patrol with Army Pfc. Pauline Lockhart, and an Afghan National Police officer. Adams and Lockhart are assigned to the 92nd Military Police Company.



(Right) Army Spc. Matthew Gregory Adams, a medic with 92nd Military Police Company, provides security for others in his company while on patrol in Shah Joy.

Soldiers notice impact of EOD mission

By Army Sgt. Douglas DeMaio
20th Public Affairs Detachment

FORWARD OPERATION BASE ANED, Afghanistan - A team of Explosive Ordnance Disposal Soldiers recently deployed here is beginning to see a shift in their mission as a result of ordnance being destroyed by EOD units.

Army Staff Sgt. Daniel W. Brown and Army Sgt. Maximo Cabrera, both from 759th Ordnance Company (EOD) in Fort Irwin, Calif., have been deployed here in Paktika Province for a little more than two months and are already seeing their mission shift from destroying munitions to responding to the occasional improvised explosive device, Brown said.

"(The mission) has shifted from just blowing up ordnance to IED and post-blasts because there is not as much ordnance in the area," said Brown, who first deployed to Afghanistan shortly after Sept. 11, 2001.

"Things are slower this time around than they were in the beginning due to the fact that when we first got here, we had ordnance everywhere," said Brown,

who is here for his second deployment to Afghanistan. "Now, unfortunately, we wait for the worst to happen."

Brown said 90 percent of the time he responds to IEDs that have already detonated.

When this happens, Brown or one of his team members will respond to the incident to check for more IEDs or post-blasts, Cabrera said.

The EOD team's role may have shifted to responding to IEDs, but their role of collecting ordnance and storing them for disposal is still part of their mission, Brown said.

Although ordnance and weapons caches are not as commonly found in the mass quantities that they once were, there still are some munitions that are being pointed out by villagers, Brown said.

"When you think of a cache now, it could be five or 10 rockets buried as compared to what I was taking care of in 2001," Brown said. Before, we were blowing up 30,000 rockets from a single cache. We've actually started to accomplish the mission that we had originally set out to do when we started - getting rid of ordnance in the country and con-

trolling the munitions that the population has," Brown said.

Villagers have been very forthcoming in letting U.S. forces know where munitions or weapons caches are, Brown said.

By ridding the countryside of stockpiles of munitions and destroying them, EOD Soldiers serve Afghans and service members alike and provide a safe and secure environment for the people in Afghanistan, he said.

"By us destroying the munitions, it provides safety for everyone," Brown said. "For instance, we had an incident the other day where there were three grenades lying out in the open.

"Some kids had actually found them. A big reason for (our mission) is safety - safety for the kids, safety for the locals and ... safety for us because it prevents the enemy from getting the munitions and using them," he said.

Since stockpiles have dwindled, the enemy has to smuggle weapons into the country, Cabrera said.

Trying to smuggle weapons into the country makes the enemy stand out even more and increases the probability that the enemy will be caught, he said.

Transfer of radar site improves operations

By Air Force Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald
455th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

KABUL, Afghanistan - As part of the closing of Karshi-Khanabad Air Base in Uzbekistan this fall, U.S. Central Command Air Forces leaders transferred one of its radar sites here.

With the kickoff of Hajj (a Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia) this month and ongoing flight operations supporting Operation Enduring Freedom, the move is already making an impact.

"[We are] excited and pleased to provide this additional capability that will benefit both military and civil flights coming in and out of Afghanistan," said Air Force Brig. Gen. Bruce Burda, Combined Joint Task Force-76 Air Component Coordination Element director and 455th Air Expeditionary Wing commander, who represented the U.S. Central Command Air Forces commander at the site's grand opening ceremony Dec. 5.

"This site will give us better radar control in the area around Kabul and Bagram Airfield," Burda said. "It will also provide a precision approach capability for our military aircraft, greatly increasing our operational flexibility. With the bad winter weather quickly approaching, these new capabilities will prove to be even more important."

Aircraft from U.S. and Coalition partners will notice safer and enhanced flight operations, the general explained.



Brig. Gen. Bruce Burda, second from left, joins other distinguished visitors for a tour of the radar site. He is the Combined Joint Task Force-76 Air Component Coordination Element director and 455th Air Expeditionary Wing commander.

"We'll see a more seamless airspace control from the en route structure through the approach control areas and finally to tower control for landings and takeoff," he said. "In addition, the radar approaches will allow us to take off and land with limited visibility, increasing our ability to support combat operations around the country."

Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald
 455th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

Afghan National Police investigators polish techniques in CID Course

By Air Force

Master Sgt. Dawn Hart

Office of Security Cooperation -
Afghanistan Public Affairs

KABUL, Afghanistan - The investigation of serious criminal offenses plays an important role in the security of Afghanistan - a role that could not be fulfilled by the Afghan National Police without the training and skills taught at the ANP Central Training Center's Criminal Investigation Division course.

The recent graduation of the third CID class indicates a consistent movement toward increased specialized training by Afghan officers.

Geared toward detective work, the three-week course is open to all ANP officers who have completed the Transition Integration Program - one of several basic courses taught at the CTC. Upon graduation, students will have a basic knowledge of criminal law, interview techniques, crime scene investigation and operational police skills.

"The class teaches them how to be investigators," said Jan Lee, CID instructor adviser. "It goes over the basics of how to collect evidence, how to take witness statements, how to ask the right questions and how to make sure you get everyone's name and address. It also teaches them how to do certain procedures that they didn't know how to do before."

Class members even get to experience what it feels like to be pepper sprayed. All of the students were pepper sprayed two days before graduation so they would have first-hand knowledge of how criminals may feel and react if they are sprayed.

"The class also teaches basic forensics," said Jon Neighbor, ANP training coordinator. "Most importantly, they really should be able to secure a crime scene, get evidence of the crime scene, gather that evidence and take control of the evidence."

Noozia, one of only two females in the 25-member class and a 15-year veteran of the police force, found the course very beneficial.

"The things we didn't know, now we know and can implement them and



Instructor Johnathan Giles pepper sprays Afghan National Police Col. Najeebullah Aslami, deputy of the Ministry of the Interior's Crime Scene Investigation Team and student in the Criminal Investigation Division course, at the ANP's Central Training Center here.

practice in our daily tasks," she said. "I learned a lot of things from the school."

"The CID class is the basic key of solving a crime," said ANP Col. Najeebullah Aslami, deputy of the Ministry of the Interior's Crime Scene Investigation Team from Kabul. "If we don't go to the crime scene, we would not be able to collect the information of a crime."

"If there is not a crime scene investigation team or CID, a lot of problems will exist for the police department," Aslami said.

ANP Lt. Col. Gull Ali, from Nangarhar Province and a member of the force for 23 years, said the class was not only a good refresher course, but also taught him about new subjects like rape and murder investigations.

The course is currently in a pilot phase, with classes taught only at the CTC in Kabul. Coordinators said they expect the course to go out to the Regional Training Centers within six months. Right now the center is focused on getting all the Afghan instructors through the program.

"We have very few instructors for this class right now," Lee said. "So we need to use them here and, as we start bringing in more instructors, we can start taking it out to the other training centers."

As the course is fielded to the regional centers, the ANP will continue to extend its training, leadership and capabilities - increasing the support and confidence of the people of Afghanistan in the security of their country.

Pace receives award for distinguished service

By Army Sgt. Sara Wood
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON - U.S. service members are doing their jobs credibly and honorably and are the reason America has the greatest military in the world, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said upon receiving an award here Dec. 12.

Marine Gen. Peter Pace received the 23rd Annual Henry M. Jackson Distinguished Service Award for service throughout his career from the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs.

In presenting the award, Stephen Bryen, president of Finmeccania, an aerospace firm and JINSA's major corporate sponsor, said that Pace's job is a hard one that requires clarity, acuity and decisiveness, and that Pace's service is not unrecognized.

"Taking the burden is not easy, but such leadership is readily recognized by the men and women of our armed forces who are justly proud of General Pace," Bryen said. "From beginning to end, his career in the Marines has been exemplary and magnificent." Accepting the award, Pace said that early in his career he promised himself never to accept an award he hadn't earned. Nevertheless, he said he learned over time that the military is a team, and no matter what his accomplishments have been, they always add up to much

more when coupled with the exceptional service of every U.S. service member.

"There are 2.4 million Americans - active, Guard and Reserve - who serve this nation tonight," Pace said. "They have earned this award, and it is my great honor on their behalf to accept it for them."

The U.S. has the greatest military the world has ever seen, Pace said, and that is primarily because of the quality of people in the military. "Our troops are simply incredible," he said. "I don't know where we find men and women like this, but it gives my mornings and my afternoons focus and purpose."

Hearing about the sacrifices of service members such as the six honored earlier in the evening gives him the motivation to do everything he can to ensure they are properly supported and led, Pace said.

Those service members received the Grateful Nation Award, which JINSA established three years ago to express appreciation for the men and women of the armed forces. They represented each service branch, including the Coast Guard, and the U.S. Special Operations Command.

Proof that troops are currently getting the support and leadership they need is in re-enlistment statistics.

"The folks in Afghanistan and Iraq are re-enlisting in greater numbers than any other part of the armed forces," he said. "And our armed

forces are re-enlisting in greater numbers than historically we have needed to sustain the force."

Those who stay in the military are doing so because they understand and believe in the mission, Pace said.

He asked the audience for help in making Americans see the true value of service to the nation, whether it be in uniform or not.

"If all of our youth were led to believe and understand the great honor that it is to serve, for a part of your life, a country that has given you all you have, it would be a wonderful gift that we would give to them," he said.

The U.S. military could not enjoy such success without the help of partners in industry and coalition partners, many of whom were represented at the dinner, Pace said. He thanked them for their service and all they've done for America.

"As good as we are, there is no nation in the world that is so big or so powerful that it can do anything all on its own," he said. "And in this long, cruel war on terrorism, we all need as many friends as we can find."

The institute is a nonprofit, nonpartisan and nonsectarian educational organization committed to explaining the need for a prudent national security policy for the U.S., addressing the security requirements of both the U.S. and Israel, and strengthening the strategic cooperation relationship between the two countries.

Detachment, from Page 9

group maintaining their blocking position and the other responding to the aid of a downed aircraft.

Throughout the mission, the plan changed again and again, leaving one group to dismount and race through a valley to the suspected target's location while the other group pursued a separate group of terrorists.

In the end, one element was poised to assault the enemy while the other group, several kilometers away, coordinated close-air support. Eventually, the joint tactical air controller painted the targets for the Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt II pilots to destroy.

With the capability to take on any mission, mounted or dismounted, during the day or under the cover of darkness, the LRSD Soldiers are being used more than ever to eliminate the enemies' safe haven in Southern Afghanistan.

"I'm proud of my guys," Collins said. "They get a lot of tasks handed to them, and they do a great job. They are con-

"I wasn't an expert on the conventional tactics of an LRS detachment. So I just took the awesome skills of its leaders and Soldiers and mixed them with what I knew about a standard infantry company."

-- Army Capt. Dirk Ringgenberg

stantly adjusting to the needs of the brigade, and they stand ready to execute any mission that brigade sees fit or comes their way.

"They do an awesome job every day, including their performance during this mission," he said.



Photos by Army Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Lum, Task Force Bayonet Public Affairs

An Afghan Border Policeman punches in the code to set up the baggage scanner at Kandahar International Airport.

Afghan Border Police ready airport for Hajj

By Army Sgt. 1st Class
Stephen Lum

Task Force Bayonet Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan - Afghan Border Police received important airport screening training so the Kandahar International Airport could open to Afghan nationals departing for Hajj departures this month. Kandahar could possibly be bustling after the pilgrimage to Mecca, because of airport weather-related closures in the north which are common this time of year.

Through the efforts of Army Maj. Robert Macaraeg, of the base operation's Force Protection element, the airport will have the latest technology has to offer in X-ray baggage scanner and metal detectors. The U.S. military loaned the systems to the border police, Macaraeg said.



An Afghan Border Policeman monitors the Rapidskan X-ray machine at Kandahar International Airport, while under the watchful eye of Mark Atwood, a Department of State trainer, Afghan Gen. Siafullah Hakem, the local immigration chief, and his colleagues.

A man in a military uniform and headset is working on a hydraulic valve. He is wearing a tan flight suit and a black headset with 'Bilsom' and 'THUNDER' written on it. He is using a wrench to adjust a valve on a piece of equipment. The background shows a clear blue sky and some industrial structures.

Freedom Watch

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**Management is nothing
more than motivating
other people.**

Lee Iacocca